

ABSTRACT

THESIS: Glacial Kame Sandal-Sole Shell Gorgets: An Exploration of Manufacture, Use, Distribution, and Public Exhibition

STUDENT: Christine K. Keller

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COLLEGE: Science and Humanities

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This thesis focuses on 12 Glacial Kame sandal-sole shell gorgets in the Fort Recovery (OH) State Museum. The Glacial Kame culture was comprised of Late Archaic people who inhabited northwestern Ohio, neighboring states, and southern Ontario from 3000 to 500 B.C. Research centered on four questions:

- How were sandal-sole shell gorgets made?
- What was the purpose of sandal-sole shell gorgets?
- What was the distribution pattern within the Midwest of sandal-sole shell gorgets?
- How can we best interpret and portray the story of sandal-sole shell gorgets to the public?

The primary methods used include a comprehensive literature review, detailed metrical and morphological analyses of regional sandal-sole gorget collections, discussion with others researching Glacial Kame culture, personal museum visits, and local research to determine context of the museum's collection. Research from this thesis contributes to the Glacial Kame literature that is currently available.